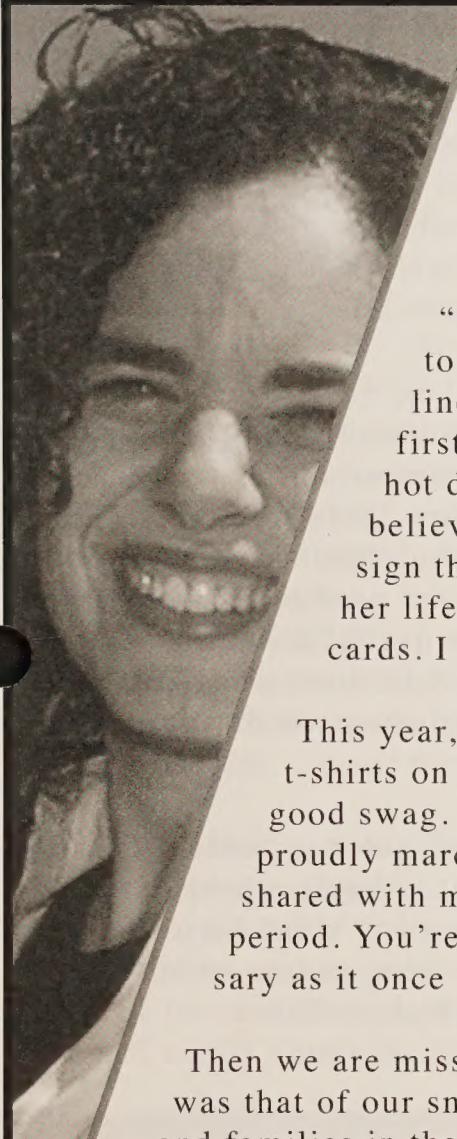




# The Jewish Gaily Forward

"Transcend the Ordinary"

Adar - Tammuz 5778 / June 2018 - August 2018



## SF Pride, June 24, 2018

By RABBI MYCHAL COPELAND

### Yesh Lanu Koach: We Have Pride, Spirit, and Energy

"Over here!!! She's Jewish!" a small crowd yelled out, eagerly pointing to a young woman at the center of a loving huddle of friends on the sidelines at Pride 2017. I was marching behind Sha'ar Zahav's banner for the first time. If you've been to a Pride March, you know it's a bit of a long, hot day, but at this point I perked up and ran to the huddle. You would not believe how excited this woman was, as if she had been waiting all day for a sign that her queer and Jewish selves were not relegated to different parts of her life. It was my first weekend at Sha'ar Zahav, so I didn't yet have business cards. I told her to find our website and come visit.

This year, believe me, I will be armed with business cards. We also have new SZ t-shirts on the way, water bottles with our logo, Pride kippot, and lots of other good swag. Why are we making such a deal out of Pride? Last year, about ten of us proudly marched with our banner. That number reveals what many of you have since shared with me: you are tired. You are tired of Pride marches and tired of marching, period. You're tired of the corporate sponsorships. Many feel it's no longer as necessary as it once was, or that it is for someone else to carry on.

Then we are missing out! When I arrived at SZ, one of the oft repeated worries I heard was that of our small congregational size (SZ actually welcomed over forty individuals and families in the past year) and that we were no longer relevant to a younger generation (nearly half of those newbies are under 35). Sha'ar Zahav is deeply relevant, and our community holds a unique spot amidst the progressive Jewish offerings in our region. If we can't muster up the koach (spirit/energy) to tell the thousands of Pride goers about our outstanding community, then we have no right to complain. How many people like that young woman will be lining up this year whose faces will light up when they see Jewish and queer values marching hand in hand?

Many thanks to the ten who marched last year, but this year, *let's really represent!*

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## Senselessness and Sensibility

By CANTOR SHARON BERNSTEIN



It is said (Talmud Yoma 9b) that the ancient Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed by sinat chinam – senseless hatred and the internal strife and conflict that it wrought.

We all struggle with our demons, as well as our likes and dislikes, but I think most people would agree that the

tone of discourse in our country, not to mention in much of the world, could reasonably result in a Temple crashing down on our heads. The thing about senseless hatred is that it's, well, so senseless. Even understanding the root causes for hatred doesn't really explain, and certainly doesn't justify, people acting on it. Politicians and statespeople hurl around invectives as if it's a schoolyard.

So, nu, what's a Jew to do? Rav Kook, in one of his most quoted statements, said:

*"If we were destroyed, and all the world with us, due to baseless hatred, then we shall rebuild ourselves, and the world with us, with baseless love – ahavat chinam."*

The key, per Rav Kook, is to love senselessly, abundantly, and rampantly. Starting with ourselves, replace any instinct to hate – no matter how justified it might seem – with love. We must look for the good in others, appreciate that which is different, and, whenever possible, act and react with love.

This is far easier said than done, but there are multiple stories about Rav Kook's abundant love for all, even for the extremists who threw waste water on him in the streets of Jerusalem, refusing to take them to court and declaring his love for them.

I can't say that I've gotten to anywhere near that level of enlightenment, and, frankly, I'm not sure that I want to – there's a certain point at which we need to fight back. But I'm wondering if, even when we need to fight, we can do it with love in our hearts? I wonder whether we can fill ourselves with love and seek the positive in those with whom we disagree with in the midst of difficult times.

Of course, that doesn't seem to make sense, but that's the whole point: senseless love to replace senseless hate. As I said, it's not easy, but we've got nothing to lose, and an awful lot to gain. It just, simply, makes sense.

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and Andy Williamson

# Turn It, and Turn It Again

By SUE BOJDAK / Director of Education



**Ben Bag-Bag would say:** turn it and turn it again, for all is in it' see through it' grow old and worn in it; do not budge from it, for there is nothing that works better than it.

Pirke Avot 5:22

The “it” to Ben Bag-Bag is the Torah. Each time we come back to the Torah we see it differently.

We bring a fresh perspective informed by our own development and the particular experiences we have had since we last encountered the text. Noah's Ark, which may have been a tale of fabulous animals lined up two-by-two when we were young, becomes a tale of terrible loss and wanton destruction. When we grow up we realize what was not on the Ark. Noah's Ark is the same story every annual cycle, but different, because we are different.

The Torah also changes when we change its context. Perhaps one day I'm transforming young people into adorable pairs of amazing animals and we are re-enacting that Ark boarding. It might be quite different when I study with a group of adults about the long, anxious wait

on the seas, sending out bird after bird, desperately hoping. It turned again when I heard one of our b'nei mitzvah give a drash on the story. How might it feel, they wondered, to be charged with rebuilding a new world once that Ark has landed atop Mount Ararat.

“Turn it, and turn it again.” As I return to this text today, the “it” for me is Sha’ar Zahav. “All is in it” includes much of my adult Jewish life, from my first step into the old synagogue on Danvers Street as a 20-something lesbian newly arrived in the Bay Area. Whether I was coming as a congregant, conversion student, lay leader, educator, or mom, Sha’ar Zahav has recognized me as an evolving human and Jew. As I return to the role of Director of Education after a 12-year hiatus, I come back as a new person encountering a new iteration of Sha’ar Zahav, older and more worn, but also with a new lens.

“Turn it, and turn it again.” At the heart of Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer, the synagogue’s Hebrew school, is the “it” of Jewish tradition, the “it” of a loving community, the “it” of teaching and learning. Now, we get to turn it again together, learners of all ages, discovering which old, familiar stories are still important and which new amazing opportunities await us. It’s time for the animals to get off the Ark and begin exploring this old-new land.

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Specifications supplied upon request.

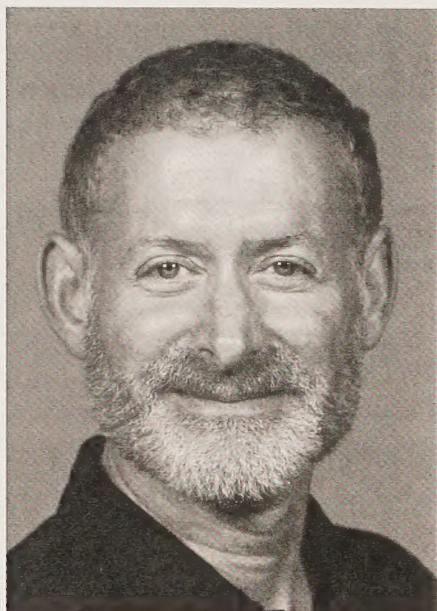
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## Reflections on Our Journey

By MICHAEL CHERTOK



When I reflect on the journey that our community has made over the past two years, I am proud of how far we have come and deeply grateful to have had the opportunity to serve our community.

In my first column, I wrote that our congregation has enormous potential to

continue creating authentic and transformative Jewish experiences, an opportunity to chart a new path as a congregation no longer pigeonholed as the “gay synagogue”, and the chance to establish a governance structure which reflects a respectful partnership between lay and professional leaders. I confess that I was somewhat intimidated to take on this role.

With profound gratitude for the support of so many of you who helped, we've made important progress on our journey. I am especially appreciative of our clergy and staff who supported this vision, as well as our Executive Committee, Va'ad, past presidents, and those of you who serve as lay leaders and contribute to our community in countless ways.

The programming in our community today is rich and varied, with options for toddlers, youth, millennials, and older adults. Our offerings include music, Jewish learning, speakers, Shabbat dinners, meditation, yoga, and much more. Our social action initiative in support of immigrants and refugees is vibrant, engaging, and forging new partnerships.

While our school has experienced more turnover than any of us would like, we've persevered to improve our Beit Sefer and are thrilled to wel-

come back Sue Bojdak as our new Director of Education.

We completed our identity work with the launch of an attractive new website and stories in the press establishing that we are a welcoming place to all. Our community has grown with more than 40 new members joining us, including gay, lesbian, transgender, and mixed-gender singles, couples, and families.

While being out in the Castro with events like Hanukkah candle-lighting and engaging with networks like the Keshet Ga'avah (The World Congress for GLBT Jewish Organizations), we have also re-engaged in broader Jewish Bay Area faith communities with Faith in Action. Currently, we can take great pride in three of our members running for electoral office!

Finally, we've come a great distance in strengthening our governance. Last year, we made important changes in our bylaws so that they are consistent with our practices and laid the groundwork for our long-term financial sustainability. Agreements are in place for Rabbi Copeland and Cantor Bernstein to continue to provide leadership to our community for the next several years.

In addition, we have a strong staff team; I am so grateful for all that Sharon, Heidy, Matt and Jason do to keep our building clean, pay our bills, keep us posted on all that's happening, and so much more! We continue to be blessed with strong lay leaders to carry us forward.

When I began this journey, I never imagined that we'd come so far in just two years. As I complete my term as “Chief Thank You Officer” I can't say enough how appreciative I am for all your support.

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Email Michael at: [president@shaarzahav.org](mailto:president@shaarzahav.org)

## Candidate For President

By NANCY LEVIN

My Sha'ar Zahav story starts with family. I came here because it's where my sister and brother-in-law went for High Holy Days. I joined because it would make my parents happy for me to be at a synagogue, but I've stayed because of me.

I am an unlikely synagogue leader. I groaned all the way to Hebrew school as a kid. I never felt a spark for religion, even after my bat mitzvah. I went to High Holy Day services and my sisters' bat mitzvahs, and that was enough synagogue for me.

But, Sha'ar Zahav was different. Here were a lot of queer Jews. Just as important, I saw women and lesbians on the bimah and in leadership. While I had no aspirations to join them there, I knew that here I was not a second-class citizen.

My first connections at SZ were not religious, but happened when I took a trip to Israel with other congregants. Soon after I ended up at a Leadership Advance (retreat), where I mostly hung out at the pool.

Fast forward, there was another trip, another friend or two, another "Advance". This time, I joined a "Membership Task Force". After meeting new members, playing piano with the chorale, setting up a sukkah, and facilitating discussions on the Mideast conflict, I joined the Va'ad. Later, as vice president, I managed our Communications Task Force project to develop messaging, a story bank, a logo, and a new website.

Unbeknownst to me, while making friends, meeting new people, and doing fun, interesting, and challenging things, I sidestepped into a spiritual side of Judaism, one that fits me and works for me in the way the religion of my youth did not.

I treasure that Sha'ar Zahav affirms the sacred in each and every one of us. We find strength in



our diversity and create new Jewish traditions that honor all of our modern lives.

Sha'ar Zahav is still about family for me, the family of new friends and colleagues I made engaging with SZ. My SZ family has taught me, opened me up, and helped me succeed. It not only has celebrated with me, but also held me close when I was in mourning.

When I was asked if I'd be willing to serve as president of this unique community, I said, "No way." I have a full-time job and family responsibilities, and I love to bike, play music and travel. However, I thought about this community and about how each time I've stepped up, I've been rewarded.

Now, with wonderful clergy, staff, and members, I am not only honored, but thrilled to help create sparks for others and to grow, Jewishly, in the future with you.

## Ilana Walder-Biesanz

By HEIDY ZOHAR RAMIREZ / Director of Engagement

Ilana Walder-Biesanz moved to San Francisco after two years of running away from the tech scene: one doing a master's degree in literature in England, the other on a Fulbright scholarship to Germany to write about avant-garde stagings of theater and opera. Her undergraduate degree in engineering eventually caught up with her, however, and she took a job in the Bay Area doing product management for Yahoo (now Oath).

Ilana went "synagogue shopping" after first moving to San Francisco, visiting services at four or five different synagogues. She found that Sha'ar Zahav was the best combination of a welcoming community, a very participatory service, and a fabulous cantor! She has been attending Sha'ar Zahav services semi-regularly for over two years, and she officially joined the congregation in November.

As a side gig, Ilana reviews theater and opera -- you can find her articles in San Francisco Classical Voice, Stark Insider, Bachtrack, and Opera Online. As anyone who has sat in front of her at services knows, she is also a trained opera singer. She recently gave a solo recital at the Center for New Music, and in August she will appear in the Lamplighters' production of Pirates of Penzance. She sits on the board of Ars Minerva, a small local company that gives long-lost Baroque operas their modern premieres.

In her free time, Ilana loves to dance. She is mostly a vintage ballroom dancer, and she has a closet full of historical reproduction ballgowns so that she can be properly attired for balls set



in time periods from the 1790s through the 1940s.

Ilana also dabbles in modern social ballroom dance, and she travels to Vienna every winter for part of their ball season. Her other hobbies include classical fencing, devouring novels, eating too much sushi, and learning languages. (She is currently working on modern Hebrew -- her seventh language.)

## Welcome Our New and Returning Members!

Nicole & Jacqueline Tate-Naghi  
Shawn Rosenmoss  
Shaun Poblete  
Jose Hernandez

Micah Ludeke  
Dick Stuart  
Timothy Grant

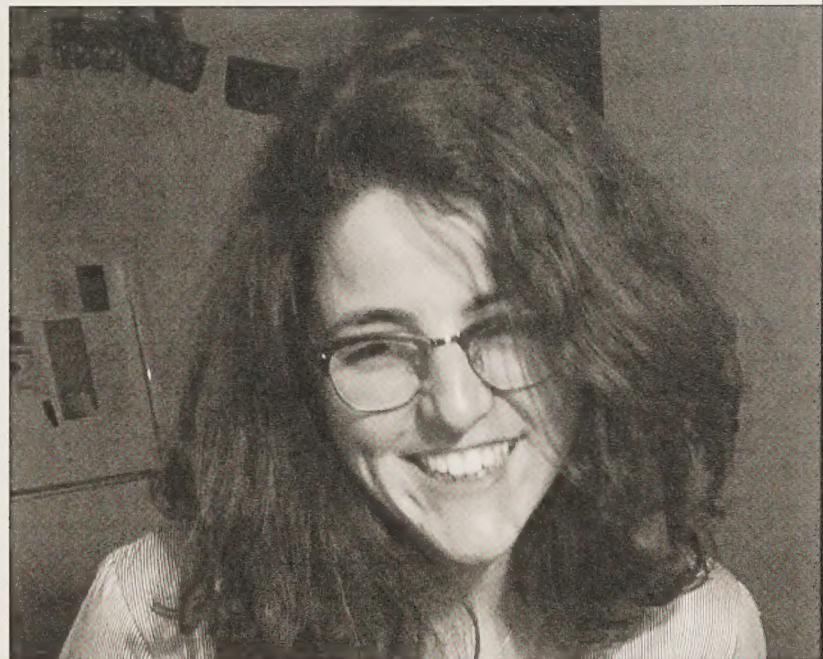
# Emily Dorian

By HEIDY ZOHAR RAMIREZ / Director of Engagement

Emily Dorian grew up in San Jose. She was always charmed by San Francisco and inevitably transferred to San Francisco State University in the Fall of 2016. Emily is currently studying Business and minoring in Decision Science (Business Analytics). She lives with her partner Carolina, a medical student at University of California San Francisco

Emily learned about Sha'ar Zahav during a Housing and Negotiation Project internship with the SF Bar Association's Justice and Diversity Center. Due to past struggles with her lesbian and Jewish identity, she was ecstatic that an LGBT Jewish space existed.

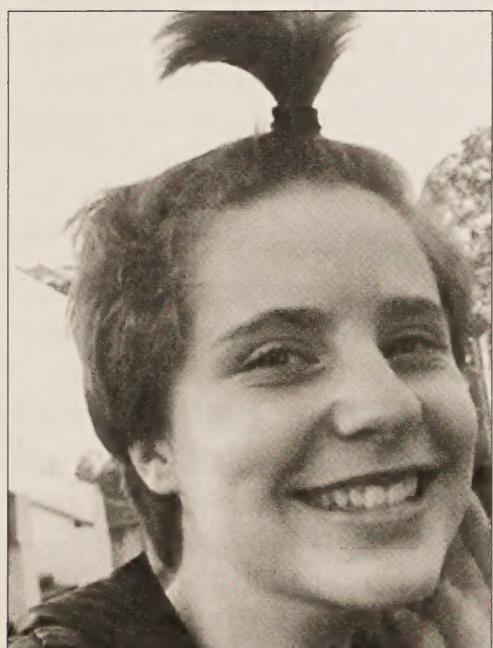
To Emily, joining Sha'ar Zahav means bridging these two parts of her life. She hopes to build a life in San Francisco and feels that being a part of the Sha'ar Zahav community is a great place to start. Besides staying on top of schoolwork and



law school applications, Emily enjoys playing R&B guitar, cycling, reading about politics and debating, listening to people's stories, and engaging in social justice efforts.

## SHA'AR ZAHAV / INTRODUCING THE BAT MITZVAH

### SADIE RAWLINGS-FEIN



Sadie Rawlings-Fein, daughter of Martin and Shelli Rawlings-Fein, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on June 9th.

Sadie is a 7th grader at Hoover Middle School in the Forest Hill neighborhood of San Francisco where she is the

first chair bassist in the concert orchestra. Beyond the boundaries of music, concert orchestra,

and her double bass, she enjoys language arts, where she has been able to do some filmmaking over the last year.

Outside of school, she enjoys hanging out with her friends at the mall, pestering her little brother Matthew, visiting the magic shop in the wharf, playing pranks, spending the summer at Camp Tawonga, writing short stories and watching/reading Stranger Things or anything Sci-Fi.

Sadie gives thanks to her mentors, Laura Lowe and Ray Bernstein, Cantor Bernstein and Rabbi Copeland for their patience and willingness to listen. She also thanks everyone at Sha'ar Zahav for their love and support over the last 13 years.

## On Our Retirement

By DIANA BUCHBINDER



After 45 years in our beloved city of San Francisco, Jeane and I retired to Arizona in March. It was not an easy decision, but the right one for us. Having worked in public service and non-profit organizations our entire careers, we felt woven into our community and invested in the success of the people and organizations we love. San Francisco is an extraordinary place, and we have no illusions that our new home will replace The City or Sha'ar Zahav.

Moving provides the opportunity to go through your stuff (both physical and emotional), relive significant moments, and keep what is important while letting go of the rest. The first time I saw San Francisco, I knew that it was the place for me. The same was true with SZ. Since my first service in 1982, on a paper covered gym floor at the Jewish Community Center, I knew I belonged and had to come back.

I did come back – a lot! I joined in 1983 and began the most rewarding and challenging experiences of my life. In 35 years of membership, every significant event in my life has involved SZ. My children were born, named at our shul on Danvers Street, attended Kadimah (now Beit Safer Phyllis Mintzer), and were

bar/bat mitzvah at SZ. I was vice president when we bought our current building and president when we marched our Torah from Danvers to our new home on Dolores Street. Jeane and I met through a synagogue member and were married in the shul. Our third child was brought to us because of a connection to a SZ member. I had the honor of seeing my grown son join and become a member of the Va'ad. Because of my experience at SZ, I participated in leadership in the wider Jewish community.

*"On the shoulders of our visionary founders, SZ became integrated into the larger Jewish community, gained acceptance, and changed the face of Reform worship."*

- Diana Buchbinder

Together, Jeane and I watched the shul grow and change. On the shoulders of our visionary founders, SZ became integrated into the larger Jewish community, gained acceptance, and changed the face of Reform worship. There are so many memories: standing on the Dolores Street median as a crane placed the roof trusses on our sanctuary, listening while Daniel Chesir mentored my son for his Bar Mitzvah, and struggling through another budget discussion.

SZ has been a foundational piece of our lives, and some might say that our family has given a lot. What is equally and profoundly true is that this has been a reciprocal relationship. SZ has been a spiritual home, providing guiding life principles and challenging us to a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Jew in our community and the wider world. SZ is woven, like silver and blue thread, through the fabric of our beings, and as we step into a life in a new place, we are not leaving SZ, but rather expanding our community and what it has taught us into a new place.

## Getting Involved at Sha'ar Zahav

By KAREN SCHILLER

**One of the cornerstones of Sha'ar Zahav's foundation is a strong partnership among our clergy, staff and congregants. One of the ways that this partnership manifests itself is through our committees. The best way to get involved in Sha'ar Zahav is to join a committee, such as the ones listed below.**

### B'nei Mitzvah Committee

The B'nei Mitzvah Committee works in partnership with our educator, rabbi, and the education and ritual committees to oversee the b'nei mitzvah program. We meet quarterly to review the successes and challenges of prior bar/bat mitzvah ceremonies to constantly improve our work, check in to make sure things are on target for the upcoming cohort, arrange mentor matches, check in with and support our mentors, update policies and manuals, and provide coordination to prepare for each bar/bat mitzvah service. We would love new members; we don't meet too often, are a fun group, and there's not too much homework between meetings, so come join us!

Contact Ora Prochovnick at [oprochov@gmail.com](mailto:oprochov@gmail.com)

### Building Committee

Have you ever wondered how the lights in the sanctuary get cleaned, how often the elevator has to be serviced, or when and how the lobby is going to be renovated? All these secrets will be revealed to those serving on the Building Committee! We are always seeking members who love to solve problems, have done some renovations, and can work in a team to arrive at consensus. We meet as needed in lovely Glen Park.

Contact Irene Ogus, chair of the Building Committee at [irene.ogus@gmail.com](mailto:irene.ogus@gmail.com) or 415-305-4286.

### Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee is open to all. Our goal as the Fundraising Committee is to raise much-needed funds, though specific campaigns throughout the year, that help CSZ continue to be a welcoming space for all everyone. If you are interested in being part of the Fundraising Committee, please contact Mike Shriver at [dadonation@gmail.com](mailto:dadanation@gmail.com).

### Newsletter Committee

The Newsletter Committee is responsible for producing the Jewish Gaily Forward. We solicit articles and pictures, edit the material that's submitted, work with our designer on the layout, and proofread the final product.

We meet by phone once a quarter to evaluate the last newsletter and plan the upcoming one and once in person for the first edit. Everything else is done by email. We love having new members!

For more information, contact Paul Cohen at [cohenpaulj@gmail.com](mailto:cohenpaulj@gmail.com).

### Rabbi Liaison Committee (RLC)

The Rabbi Liaison Committee supports Rabbi Copeland's successful rabbinate at CSZ. We strive to be a group who can provide trusted confidential feedback to the rabbi on what she's doing well to serve the congregation, as well as areas where she might improve, within the contracted scope of her role. Additionally, we're here to serve both as a sounding board for the rabbi, and as a conduit for congregants to bring concerns to the rabbi should a congregant have a concern and not wish to approach the rabbi directly.

Membership in this committee is by invitation, but if you would like to find out more about the committee, feel free to contact Larry Wexler ([wex0620@yahoo.com](mailto:wex0620@yahoo.com)), Karen Schiller ([kschiller@igc.org](mailto:kschiller@igc.org)) or Ray Bernstein ([rayberNSTEIN@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rayberNSTEIN@sbcglobal.net)).

(Additional Committees continue on Page 14.)

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Mike Shriver

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In memory of William Schustack

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in memory of Erwin Alpert, Isabel Fishman,  
Manny Leno, Norma Pick and Tom Yazman

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in honor of Rabbi Mychal Copeland

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in memory of Rick Brattin,  
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**Nancy Chernikov**

in honor of Judith Wolfe's 70th birthday

**Rose-Anne Donner Colt**

in memory of her father Isaac C. Donner

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in honor of Rabbi Mychal Copeland

**Marjorie Hilsenrad**

in honor of Rabbi Mychal Copeland's energy,  
Cantor Sharon Bernstein's music,  
and President Michael Chertok's inclusiveness

**Alice Harron**

in memory of Linda O'Brian

**Caylah Kastner**

in memory of her grandmother Virginia Ruth  
and uncle Richard Kastner

**Rose Katz**

in memory of her father Marvin J. Katz

**Rabbi Andrew Klein & Adam Mastoon**

in appreciation for the warm welcome they  
received and SZ's great work in the world

**Sharon Kleinbaum**

in honor of Rabbi Copeland

**Eric Keitel & Aaron Cooper**

in honor of Paul Cohen & Ron Lezell

**Ron Lezell**

in memory of his mother Sophie Lezell

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mitzvah

**Lishmah Foundation**

in honor of Ray Bernstein

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in memory of Manny Leno

**William (Bill) Smith**

in honor of Pesach

**Steve Weiner & Norm Ditu**

in memory of Manny Leno

**Terri Yeckley**

in honor of Alex Ingersoll's birthday

**Lydia & David Zinn**

### Rainbow 2017

**Troy Bodnar**

**Tony Harris**

**Andy Schwartz**

in honor of Rabbi Mychal Copeland  
and Cantor Sharon Bernstein

### Rainbow 2018

**Marianne Balin & Prudence Carter**

in memory of Phyllis Mintzer

**Merle Barkan & Denise Carr**

in memory of Enid Barkan, Theresa Carr

**Claudia Bernard & Howard Herman**

**Ruth Bernstein & Matthew Patchell**

**Michael Bettinger**

**Helen Bruno & Kevin Stein**

**Diana Buchbinder & Jeane Redsecker**

**Phil Charney**

**Michael Chertok**

in honor of Anthony Sauler

**Bernard Choden & Lois Scott**

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in honor Mark Mackler for his help

**Paul Cohen & Robert Guterman**

**Ann Daniels & Jonathan Zingman**

**The Donahue Klaiman Family**

**Linda Edelstein & Marion Gillen**

**Lynn Eden & Ruth Schoenbach**

**Steve Elman**

in loving memory of

my sister, Judith Brooke Elman

**Deborah Farkas**

in memory of my brother,

Richard Michael Farkas

**Don Fischer**

**Ernest & Kathleen Friedlander**

**Jonathan Funk**

**Andy Fyne**

**The Gluck Family**

in memory of Maury & Elizabeth Gluck

**Allan Gold & Alan Ferrara**

**Alan Gordon**

**Bob Gordon**

**Denise Gordon & Elizabeth Priest**

**Marius Greenspan**

in memory of my father, Earl Greenspan

**Sarita Groisser**

**Isaac Guttman**

**Jan Half**

in honor of Sharyn Saslafsky

for our meeting 2 years ago at SZ

**Ellen Harrington & Katie Butler**

**Tony Harris**

in honor of Paul Cohen

who was the first to ask me

to become involved at Sha'ar Zahav

**Alice Harron**

**Marjorie Hilsenrad**

in honor of Larry Wexler, my Facebook buddy

**Judith Huerta**

in memory of my mother, Mariol Knapp

**Alex Ingersoll & Martin Tanenbaum**

in honor of Mike Shriver for all that

he brings to our community

**Jo Ellen Kaiser**

**Michael Kalb & Brian Heng**

in memory of our grandparents Thomas & Dora

**Kalb and Debbie Teng**

**Anna and Josh Katz**

in honor of Ron Edelman, for his teaching

**Bob Katz**

**Rose Katz**

**Laureen Kim & Alan Michels**

**Idit Klein**

in honor of Martin Tannenbaum

& Alex Ingersoll's leadership

**Lisa Kolbe**

in honor of Ariel Bernstein Spagnolo

**Erin Kunze**

**Tom Lakritz**

**Nancy Levin**

**Ron Lezell**

**Deborah Levy**

**Marc Lipschutz**

**Susan Lubeck & Richard Weiner**

in honor of Alex Ingersoll

& Martin Tannenbaum

**Mark Mackler**

**Merle Malakoff & Gina Surber**

**Rafael Mandelman**

**Steve Mazer**

**Tom Medin**

in memory of my grandmother,  
Caroline Levitt

**Florence & Steve Nacamulli**

in loving memory of Noah

& Aaron Nacamulli

**Deborah Newbrun**

in honor of Rabbi Mychal Copeland,  
may this be a happy union at CSZ

**Mark Oliver & Steve Polksky**

**Barry & Tirza Pearl**

**Michael Peterson**

**Jeffrey Piade**

**Mark Pirie**

**Mark Pressler**

**Philip Prinz**

in memory of Ruth Marian Prinz

**Carolyn Reiser & Karren Shorofsky**

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**Paisha Rochlin-Lehrman & Marvin Lehrman**

in memory of Kate Czekala

**Neil Jacob Rosenbaum**

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**Sharyn Saslafsky**

**Lilian Schaechner & Elaine Weissman**

**Bernard Schertzer**

**Karen Schiller**

in honor of Michael Chertok

**Andy Schwartz & John Mark Eggerton**

**Mike Shriver**

in honor of Paul Cohen

**Arthur Slepian & Gerry Llamado****Daryl Smith & Barbara Bergmann**

in honor of Rabbi Copeland

**Elliott Sprehn & Rachel Nancollas****Howard Steiermann**

in honor of our wonderful staff

**Rob Tat****Ilona Turner**

in memory of my aunt Vivian Polack

**Sam Walters****Rabbi Eric Weiss & Don Alpert****Lonnie Weiss**

in loving memory of Vera,  
Joe and Jackie Weiss

**Randy Weiss****Larry Wexler****Judith Wolfe****David & Lydia Zinn****The Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk  
Musical Events Fund****Mark Mackler & Wendell Choo**

in honor of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold

**Jonathan Funk and John Arnold**

in memory of Judy Davis

**Cantor's Discretionary Fund****Allan Berenstein**

in honor of Ariel Bernstein Spagnolo

**Steve Elman & Tom Holt**

in memory of William Shustack

**Rose Katz**

in memory of William Shustack

and in honor of Ariel Bernstein Spagnolo

**Arthur Slepian**

in honor of Ariel Bernstein Spagnolo

**Judith Wolfe**

in honor of Ariel Bernstein Spagnolo

**Music in Mishkan****David Lowe****Rabbi's Discretionary Fund****Allan Berenstein**

in memory of my mother,  
Agnes Berenstein Schwartz,  
my cousin Richard Radetsky, Nancy Stern,  
and in honor of Jonah Copeland

**Paul Cohen & Robert Guterman**

in memory of Erwin Alpert

**Steve Elman & Tom Holt**

in memory of William Shustack

**Bookplates for Machzor****Elaine Blafer**

in memory of William Schustack

**Sam Thal**

in honor of Ariel Bernstein Spagnolo's  
bar mitzvah

**Siddur Bookplate****James Carlson**

in honor of Diana Buchbinder & Jeane Redsecker

**Chai Fund (General)****Diana Buchbinder & Jeane Redsecker****Karen Schiller****Chai Fund (Cantor)****Barbara Cymrot****Jonathan Funk****Michael Tyler & Amy Schustack****Chai Fund (Building)****Allan Gold & Alan Ferrara****Larry Klein****Laura Lowe****Irene Ogus****Chai Fund (Beit Seifer Phyllis Mintzer)****Allan Berenstein**

in memory of Noah Nacamulli

**Allan Gold & Alan Ferrara**

Your contributions help us realize our commitment to building and maintaining a vibrant, living community for Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. A donation can be a meaningful way to honor friends or family, engagements, anniversaries, graduations, for special thanks, or to memorialize a loved one. Collectively, with your financial support, we continue to prosper, grow, and celebrate our future.

## SHA'AR ZAHAV / NACHAS

**Abby Volk & Brad Neuberg**, on the birth of daughter, Cameron Mackenzie-Morse Neuberg  
**Julia Bolotov-Kaplan & Alexander Kaplan**, on the birth of daughter, Jasmine Ruth Kaplan  
**Nicole & Jacqueline Tate-Naghi** on the birth of their son, Eli Tate-Naghi  
**Graduating High School Seniors:** Maxima Alexandra, Delia Colson, Amalia Cymrot-Wu, Jessie Felder-Noily, Rose Katz, Rafi Lubeck-Weiner, Bria Odegaard, Cohen Stein  
**Hilary Zaid** on the publication of her novel, *Paper is White*

## SHA'AR ZAHAV / SPONSORSHIPS

### February 2-3

Flowers by Rachel Nancollas,  
in memory of her grandmother,  
Katrina Wobschall

### February 9-10

Kiddush Luncheon  
by Jeffrey Auman  
in memory of his father,  
Ned Gilbert Auman

### February 16-17

Oneg by Howard Hahn  
in memory of his mother  
and Sha'ar Zahav member, Helga Hahn  
Flowers by Steve Polksky  
in memory of his mother, Elaine Polksky  
and his grandmother, Rachel Polksky

### March 2-3

Flowers by Rose-Anne Donner Colt  
in memory of her father, Isaac C. Donner  
Oneg by Shapour Matloob  
in honor of David and Afsaneh Matloob

### March 9-10

Oneg by James Carlson, Paul Cohen  
and Ron Lezell in memory of their fathers  
Flowers by Aviva and Mel Bernstein  
and Paola Acht and Gian-Piero Spagnolo z"l  
in honor of their grandson Ariel's bar mitzvah

### March 9-10 (cont.)

Kiddush Luncheon  
by Francesco Spangolo and Sharon Bernstein  
in honor of  
Ariel Bernstein Spagnolo's bar mitzvah

### March 23-24

Oneg by James Carlson  
in memory of his husband, Richard Roginski

### March 30-31

Flowers by Howard Hahn  
in memory of his father,  
and CSZ member, Fred Hahn

### April 13-14

Flowers  
by Ada & Jerry Rosenbaum,  
Gigi & Mark Copeland  
in honor of their grandson Jonah's bar mitzvah  
Kiddush Luncheon  
by Kirsti and Mychal Copeland  
in honor of Jonah Copeland's bar mitzvah

### May 4-5

Oneg by Alice Harron  
in memory of her father, Meyer Jacob Harron  
Bar Mitzvah Kiddush luncheon by Micah Ludeke

### May 11-12

Oneg by Naomi Jatovsky and Ron Lezell  
in honor of the Peace Corps

## SHA'AR ZAHAV / CONDOLENCES

### February

Kirby Vaughn Scherer,  
beloved father of Annye Bone  
William Schustack,  
father of Amy Schustack  
and father-in-law of Michael Tyler

### April

Manny Leno,  
father of Mark Leno  
Linda O'Brian,  
mother of Troy Bodnar

Alfred Loeb,  
uncle of Michael Chertok  
Barbara Shapiro,  
mother of Joseph Shapiro

**Ritual Committee (RitCom)**

Interested in leading services, giving a drash, helping develop new liturgy, or sharing your ideas about how we can make Sha'ar Zahav's services even better? Then join SZ's Ritual Committee.



Meetings are open to all members; you can be a ritual mayven (expert) or a newbie – we all learn together.

We usually meet on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. For more information, contact co-chairs Howard Steiermann ([hmsinsf@aol.com](mailto:hmsinsf@aol.com)) or Ami Zusman ([ami.zusman@berkeley.edu](mailto:ami.zusman@berkeley.edu)).

**Social Action Committee**

Do you want to help further the Jewish goal of tikkun olam (repairing the world)? The Social Action Committee works to make a better world a reality. Committee members have focused on immigration issues, housing, and Muslim-Jewish relationships. For more information, contact Michael Rice ([mrice100@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrice100@sbcglobal.net)).

**Clergy Vacation Schedule**

**Rabbi Copeland:** July 16th-27th

**Cantor Bernstein:** June 23rd - August 3rd

*Please contact the office  
for pastoral emergencies.*



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**David Gellman**

DGellman@g3mh.com

**Arthur Meirson**

AMeirson@g3mh.com

## June

- 2 Mark B. Feldman
- 3 Janet Gaby
- 8 Robert Nehemiah Mackey
- 9 Duff Kreitzberg
- 9 Judy Macks
- 14 Mirtha Beal
- 15 Barry Siegel
- 16 Richard Rath
- 17 Joe Zygielbaum
- 20 Rachel Mailman
- 20 William E. Valentine
- 24 David Shaber
- 30 Jeanette Klein



## July

- 4 Edwin Gabay
- 5 Matthew Rostoker
- 6 David Roy Custead
- 9 Alexander Louis Konski
- 18 Eli Shaber
- 20 Sarah Schumann
- 25 Seth Miller
- 30 Phillip Resnick

## August

- 2 David H. Kotch
- 3 Hal Podgur
- 4 Jordan Berger
- 5 Ernie Weinstein
- 6 Jay Platt
- 7 Mark Landsberger
- 16 Peter Rosenfeld
- 18 Elliot Schneck
- 22 Inbal Kashtan
- 28 Jay Feinstein

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**JOIN US** in Sha'ar Zahav's decorating of the URJ trolley  
that we will march alongside on Sunday, June 24th.

Sign up at [Heidy@shaarzahav.org](mailto:Heidy@shaarzahav.org).

### We have a new Sha'ar Zahav T-shirt design!

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email to purchase your very own t-shirt!

### JUNE EVENTS CULMINATING IN THE PRIDE MARCH:

#### Family & Friends Shabbat

- June 8 - 6:00 pm

#### "Struggling in Good Faith" book panel

- June 13 - 7:00 pm

#### Book discussion of "Paper is White"

*with author / member, Hilary Zaid*

- June 19 - 6:30 pm

#### Cocktails and Pride Shabbat

**June 22**

- 6:00 pm cocktails
- 7:00 pm Pride service